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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board Members, Board of Advisors, Liaison Advisors

FROM: C. Emil Fasser, President

SUBJECT: Presidential Activities (July 8th. - 19th., 1974)

DATE: July 30th., 1974

In an effort to keep Board members abreast of the activities of this office, we will continue to provide this form of memorandum covering those issues and the fashion in which they were responded to.

In the beginning part of the week, a subscription to the Allied Medical Education Newsletter as well as the State Health Legislation Report were obtained for the National Office from the American Medical Association.

Our opinions concerning the proposal for establishment of a Joint Council for the Accreditation of Allied Medical Education were forwarded to Ralph Kuhli, Secretary, Advisory Committee on Education to the Allied Health Professions and Services.

A letter was sent to Dr. Lee Powers, President of the American Professional Practice Association and Director of the Physician's Assistant Program at Bowman-Gray, expressing our concerns over his lending credence to the concept of informally trained assistants of being eligible for the NAP membership benefits. He assured us in his reply that the article as printed was directed towards graduates of formal programs.

Copies of those Bylaws relating to the Academy, New England Assembly, Oklahoma State Chapter, and the Intermountain Association of Physician's Assistants were forwarded to James Konopa in care of Santa Fe Community College in Gainesville, Florida, as background data for a committee whose responsibilities will include designing a mechanism for affiliation with regional and state groups.

As a result of the Goals and Priorities Meeting on June 27th. Mr. Paul Moson has consented to pursue liaison activities between the Academy and the American Pharmaceutical Association. It is hoped that with the assistance of Messrs. John Braun and William Stanhope, we can develop a position paper dealing with the prescribing practices of the physician's assistant.

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As most of you know by now, the 1974 Certifying Examination for the Primary Care Physician's Assistants will be administered on December 11th. Information regarding eligibility requirements and applications for this examination can be obtained by writing the Registrar of the National Board of Medical Examiners.

The first meeting of the National Commission on Certification of Physician's Assistants will take place August 8th., 1974 in Chicago, Illinois. By review, the Academy will bring five representatives to this meeting. They will include the Office of the President, and four physician's assistants at large to include Ronald Audette, Stephen Joyner, Ronald France, and Fred Olenberger. Contact has been made with each of these individuals and background data on the Commission provided. In addition, there will be a meeting on the evening of August 7th. in preparation for the following day's activities.

On July 11th. and 12th. the Secretary, Treasurer, and President met in Washington for the purposes of transferring all official documents and records to include current membership lists. All future billing for membership dues, mailing of newsletters and general information will come forth from Room 210 of the Gelman Building at 2120 L. Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

While in Washington, representatives of the Academy and Association of Programs met with members of the Social Security Administration along with other interested parties to discuss the upcoming project dealing with experimental reimbursement of physician's assistant services. The majority of discussion centered around a fashion in which graduate member and non-member PA's would be contacted within the community. The decision was that each program would contact its students and graduates as a way of introducing them to the upcoming study while allowing each graduate and student to indicate in writing, their willingness to participate by the addition of their name to a mailing list. It was obvious from all present that in an effort to carry out such a project the study could not move further forward without the endorsement of both the Academy and the Association.

On July 15th., I attended a legislative hearing in the State of California for the purposes of discussing the Physician's Assistant concept, our knowledge of existing state licensure laws and problems concerning the delegation of tasks to physician's assistants. Because of administrative difficulties, a graduate physician's assistant was recently charged with the unlicensed practice of medicine along with aiding and abetting the unlicensed practice of medicine. Please note that as the results of our contributions and the efforts of Assemblyman

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Duffy (responsible for the legislative activities in the State of California) the charges against the physician's assistant are to be dismissed. The Academy has also been given the opportunity to suggest changes of administrative policy to the State Board of Medical Examiners in that state.

While the above issue is important, there emerges an issue of greater importance, that being the general lack of information concerning state requirements for graduates, programs and preceptors and the process by which one gains approval for a physician's assistant in a specific state. For example, in some states the P.A. may not work even though he has graduated from a program until the employing physician has been approved to utilize the assistant's services. Others may quickly approve the supervising physician yet the P.A. may not be able to function in the state because the program from which he graduated was not approved by the State Board of Medical Examiners. Because of these problems, the National Office has begun to collect just this information. Plans are to have it available to programs, students, and graduates shortly. For those of you involved in educational programs, I would suggest reviewing carefully the areas into which your soon-to-be graduates are going.

By now, you should have received your second issue of the P.A. Journal which includes the Continuing Medical Education Guidelines for our members, as well as an example of the forms necessary for submitting such to the Academy. With the assistance of Ms. Patricia McNabb, the Committee on Continuing Education has recently completed their proposed guidelines for accrediting continuing medical education programs.

While in Washington, I and others had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Gerald Eggleston of Lederle Laboratories. They appear most interested in lending financial support to a segment of our educational activities for our next annual meeting and possibly others to follow. It is anticipated that members of the Conference Planning Committee and Continuing Education Committee will be getting together with Mr. Gerald Eggleston and staff on August 9th. in Washington D.C.

Through the efforts of Dr. Frederic Schoen, M.D., the American Academy of Family Physicians, empowered its Division on Education under the direction of Drs. Thomas L. Stern and Robert Graham to offer the assistance of their staff for the purpose of developing the continuing medical education activities of the Academy. As an advisor to the Academy, we appreciate greatly your efforts on our behalf.

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A final letter of inquiry was forwarded to F.E. Sivertson, M.D. of the Department of Postgraduate Medical Education in Madison, Wisconsin for the purposes of further identifying their interest in the development of an individual physician profile assessment tool for the use by members of the Academy. While discussion in this area has occurred over the past months, few decisions have been made. It is hoped that these decisions will be forthcoming.

Through discussion with Joseph Hamburg, M.D., Dean of the College of Allied Health Professions at Albert Chandler Medical Center in Lexington, Kentucky, the thought of further defining the relationship between the Family Physician and Physician's Assistant was spawned. Thoughts centered around bringing together select members of each organization in an effort to devise an invitational conference directed at exploring this topic. In subsequent conversations with Dr. Frederic Shoen of AAFP it was suggested to delay such an undertaking until a more opportune time period.

The revised Newsletter is about to come out. The new format should prove to be a welcome change. Like the cover of our Journal, it is hoped that people will begin to recognize this communication by our use of an unchanging cover sheet. Similar efforts in this direction will be directed at stationary, envelopes, and informational brochures.

A new policy has been adopted whereby only student members will receive a membership card while fellow members will receive a newly designed permanent certificate with a gold seal suitable for framing. Arrangements for the production of the certificates and name engraving are now in the process.

The proceedings of the 1974 Annual Conference are in the process of being printed by Williams and Wilkins Company. For persons attending the annual conference, there will be no charge for the proceedings. Additional copies may be obtained by sending \$6.00 to the National Office.

The plans for making available a program of malpractice insurance to the membership is moving ahead. It is anticipated that by our September 28th. meeting in Atlanta, the Board will have the opportunity to review the best possible programs available. This should prove to be a rather valuable benefit to our membership.